

for the issue. But God, who presides over the birth of principles, promotes their growth and makes them a blessing, protected and nourished the tender vine. To Him be the glory and praise for ever.

History has dispersed the clouds which enveloped the future, and our constitutional principles have already developed their capacity of producing all that their first defenders affirmed. There has been no failure thus far. As the experiment of the chemist oftentimes confirms the antecedent conjecture, so here the history illustrates and establishes the previous reasoning, and both strengthen our faith and encourage our hearts.

Under these circumstances, and with this history, we fear not the future. Our work is to save souls ; may it never be forgotten. Of course a scriptural constitution, government, and order in the Church are important ; we shall always be ready to expound and enforce them. But even these are not to be named among us in competition with the salvation of souls. This shall be our work. We deprecate controversy, and desire to live in peace and amity with all Churches and with all men. We sincerely regret that necessity is laid upon us to defend ourselves and our people from spurious and reckless accusations. But we fear this sort of warfare is to be revived. Dr. Carroll has entered upon the war path again. In the last pamphlet written by him he opened upon us, he thinks, a double-flanked battery, and we are told his ammunition is not yet exhausted. He is good enough to give us warning, for he says he is on his "watch tower," and the first opportunity that offers he can wheel into position guns of greater calibre than any he has yet employed. So ye "mouthpieces" of the M. E. Church and "others" take heed to your sayings, for henceforth the point of every paragraph